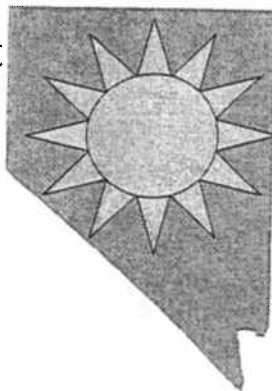


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STATE PUBLICATIONS

NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

February 2000
Volume 17, Number 2

Yet another mild month has added new pages to the climate record book. With no "real winter" thus far this Season the six month September 1999 to February 2000 period (essentially Fall & Winter) has been the warmest on record over most of Nevada. During February alone temperature departures were generally in the 3 – 5 degrees above normal range. February was also a very wet month in most areas, with generally 2 – 3 times normal precipitation. Most of the precipitation that fell above 7000' was snow. Below 5000' this has been an almost "snowless winter" due to the mild conditions. Following one of the driest Falls on record, when no rain fell at some locations, February rain ended near record dry spells. For example, Las Vegas recorded measurable precipitation on February 10th for the first time since September 22nd, 1999, ending the dry period of 140 days. Las Vegas' longest streak without measurable rain was 150 days in 1959. Some locations were dry, as Dan Krueger, environmentalist for the Day Zimmerman Corporation at Hawthorne, reported only .38", for the driest reported February rain gage reading.

Extreme low temperatures were not very, with -3° at Bare Ranch in the Northwest, 0 at Manhattan, 2° at Middlegate, 4° at Hualapai Valley and 3° at Montgomery Pass. Highs were in the 70's at some low elevations in the South. Records are -42° at Carlin in 1989 and 93° at Laughlin in 1986.

After a dismal start to the 1999-2000 Water Year, late January and February precipitation has improved conditions. For example, much of the Sierra East Slope Watersheds are near normal, as is the Upper Humboldt Area. Also, Eastern Mineral County and Northern Lincoln County are above normal. The driest location is in the lower Walker Basin. In general most of Nevada has had between two-thirds and three-quarters of normal precipitation. Extremes on the wet side are 35.90" at Mt. Rose (94% of normal), 19.10" at Marlette Lake (83%), 14.17" at Daggett Pass, and 11.11 at

Glenbrook (97%), all in the Tahoe Basin. Mina has had 180% of normal precipitation, the highest in the State with a 3.38" total. On the dry side, Yerington has had only .81" (34%), Hawthorne .90" (42%), and Montgomery Pass .95", for the first five months of the Water Year.

In the next issues of the Nevada Climate Summary credit will be given to the volunteer observers that take the time to make it possible to understand Nevada's climate. These are in addition to the National Weather Service network of volunteer observers.

Elko

Boies Ranch – Marla Griswold
Charleston – Marge Prunty
Jarbidge – Rey Nystrom
Midas Mine – James Gelhaus
Ruby Valley – Ben Neff
San Jacinto – Dave Secrist
Warm Springs Ranch (Precipitation Only)

Eureka

Carlin
Beowawe Gund (Evaporation Only)
Tonkin Springs

Humboldt

Chimney Creek Mine
Desert Valley Sleeper Mine (Precipitation Only)
Hinkey Summit (Storage Precipitation Gage Only)
Winnemucca Rinaudo – Gary Rinaudo

Lander

Carroll Summit	(Storage Gage Precipitation Gage Only)
Echo Bay Mine	
Pete's Summit	(Storage Gage Precipitation Gage Only)
Reese River Hoard – Jeff Hoard	
Scott's Summit	(Storage Gage Precipitation Gage Only)

Thanks very much for doing a great job!

John W. James
State Climatologist

NEVADA CLIMATE STATIONS

Percentage of Normal
Precipitation
Oct. 1, 1999 – Feb. 29, 2000

